

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U. S. Attorney Carlos Arguello, 619-557-6252

For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - June 12, 2006

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Harold Oliver Harris was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in San Diego by the Honorable Napoleon A. Jones, Jr. to serve a custodial term of 41 months in federal prison for bank robbery. Judge Jones also ordered that Harris serve a five-year term of supervised release following his release from prison. Harris pled guilty on February 2, 2006, to robbing the Union Bank of California located at University Avenue and 30th Street in San Diego.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Carlos Arguello, who prosecuted the case, the record of the proceedings established that on October 7, 2005, Harris approached a teller at the Union Bank of California with a note that demanded money and stated that he was armed with a bomb. In reality, Harris possessed a fake bomb device. The teller complied with the demand and handed Harris \$683.00 in cash, together with a hidden electronic tracking device. San Diego Police Department officers responding to the bank robbery alarm detained Harris a few blocks from the bank. After two robbery eyewitnesses identified Harris, police

officers arrested Harris. Officers also discovered that Harris had worn a wig during the robbery. All of the money was recovered and no one was injured during the incident.

United States Attorney Lam praised the San Diego Police Department for the immediate response to the bank robbery, as well as the efforts of the officers who made the swift apprehension of Harris. She also recognized the FBI's Bank Robbery Task Force for its detailed follow-up investigation and close work with the victim tellers in this case.

DEFENDANT

Harold Oliver Harris

SUMMARY OF CHARGE

Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2113(a) and (d) (Armed Bank Robbery)

Maximum Penalty: Maximum of 25 years prison
 \$250,000 fine
 Five years of supervised release

INVESTIGATING AGENCIES

San Diego Police Department
Federal Bureau of Investigation